VICTORIA AVEYARD

SOMAN CHAINANI

RED SCHOOL

Part II

ART BY JOEL GENNARI

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RED SCHOOL

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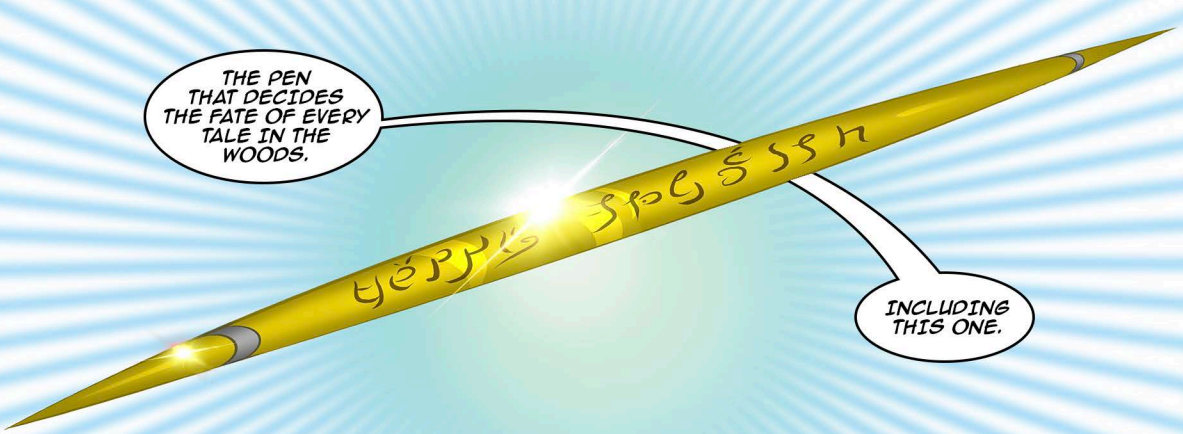
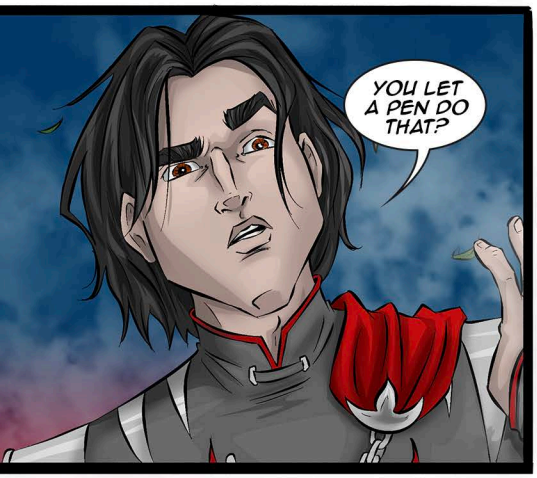
COVER ART BY JOEL GENNARI
COVER DESIGN BY STEVEN GIANACA

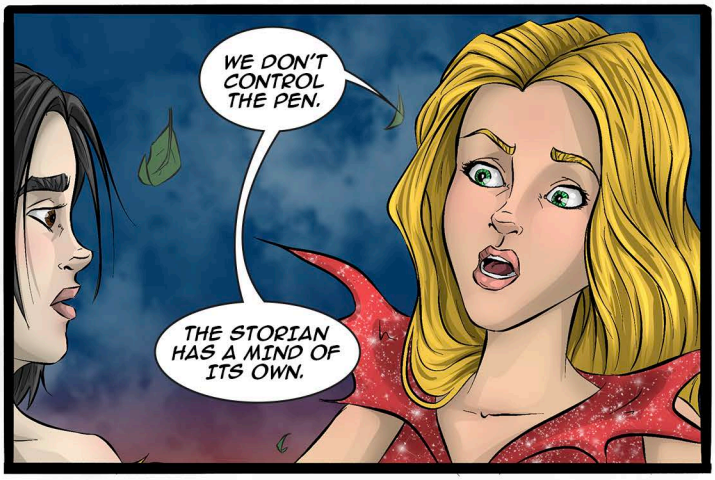
THE PRESENT

SCHOOL FOR GOOD

SOMEBODY'S MESSED WITH THE STORIAN.
THAT FLASH YOU SAW IN THE SCHOOL MASTER'S TOWER CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING:
THE WHAT?

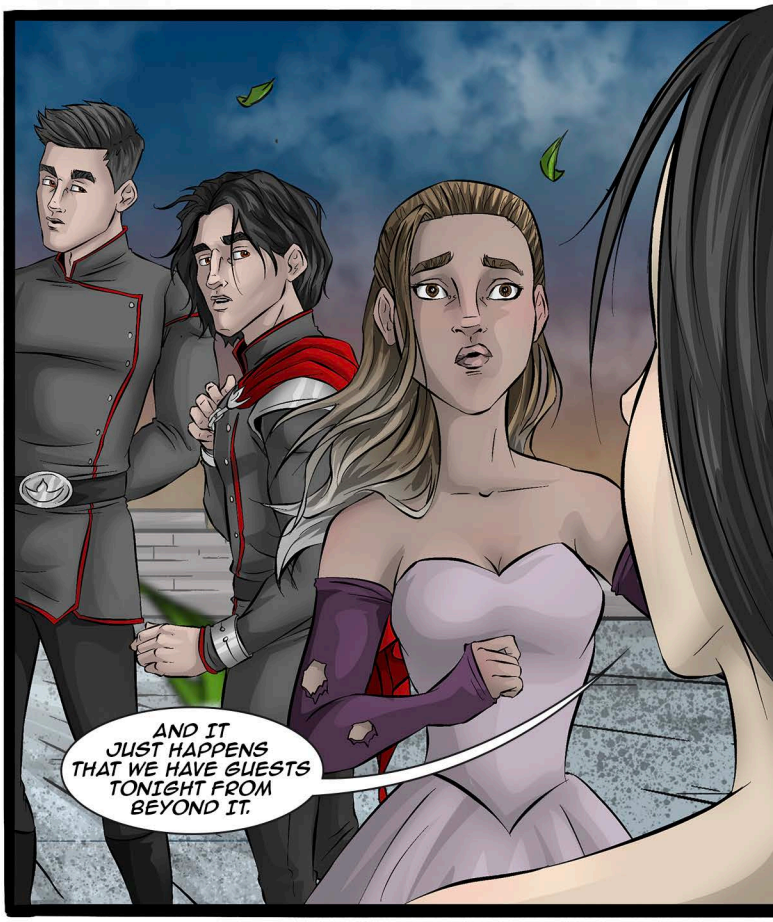

THE PEN THAT DECIDES THE FATE OF EVERY TALE IN THE WOODS.
INCLUDING THIS ONE.


YOU LET A PEN DO THAT?

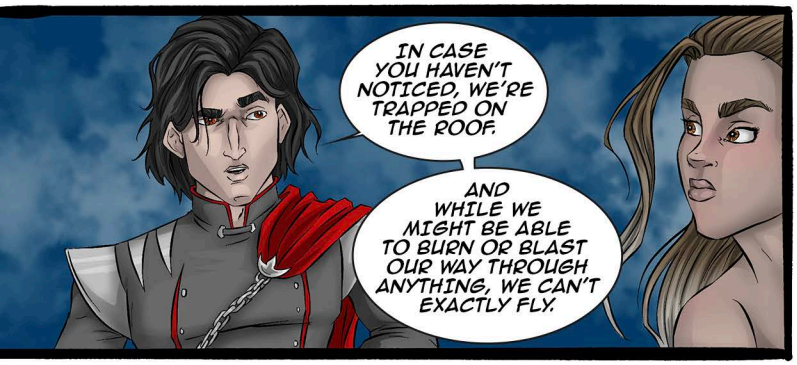

WE DON'T CONTROL THE PEN.
THE STORIAN HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN.

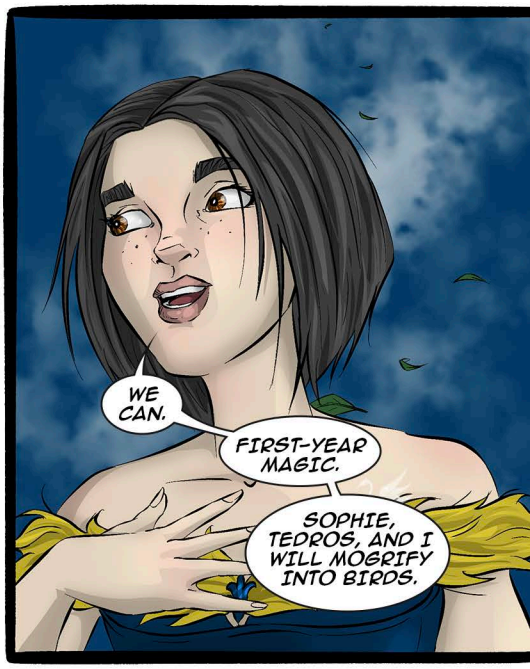
WHICH MEANS IT CAN'T BE MESSED WITH, NO MATTER WHAT AGATHA SAYS.
IT KEEPS THE BALANCE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL AND SUSTAINS OUR WOODS.
THERE'S NO MAGIC IN OUR WORLD STRONG ENOUGH TO CONTROL THE STORIAN.

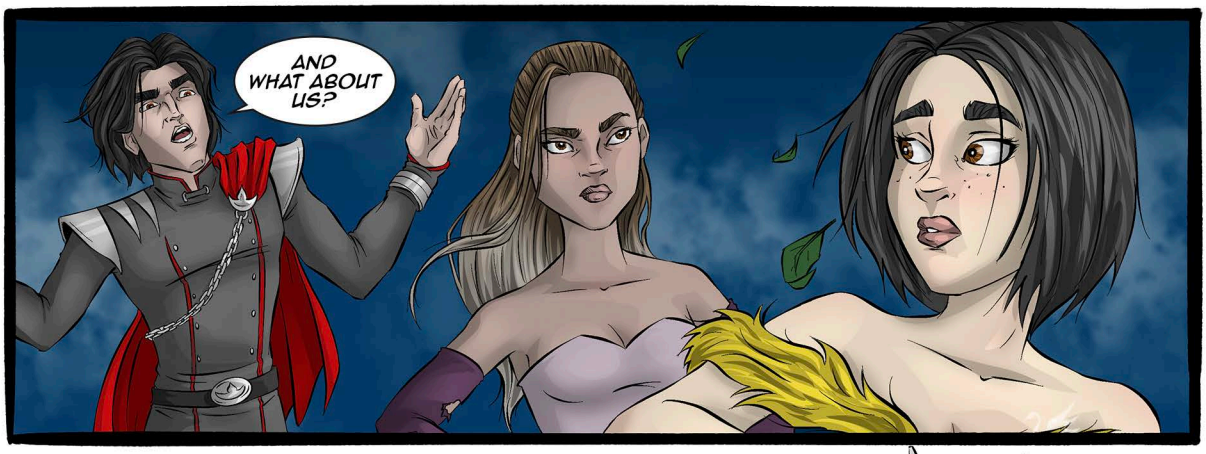
NO MAGIC IN OUR WORLD.


AND IT JUST HAPPENS THAT WE HAVE GUESTS TONIGHT FROM BEYOND IT.

SO WE GO TO YOUR SCHOOL MASTER'S STUDY AND SEE FOR OURSELVES.


IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, WE'RE TRAPPED ON THE ROOF.
AND WHILE WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO BURN OR BLAST OUR WAY THROUGH ANYTHING, WE CAN'T EXACTLY FLY.


WE CAN.
FIRST-YEAR MAGIC.
SOPHIE, TEDROS, AND I WILL MOGRIFY INTO BIRDS.


AND WHAT ABOUT US?

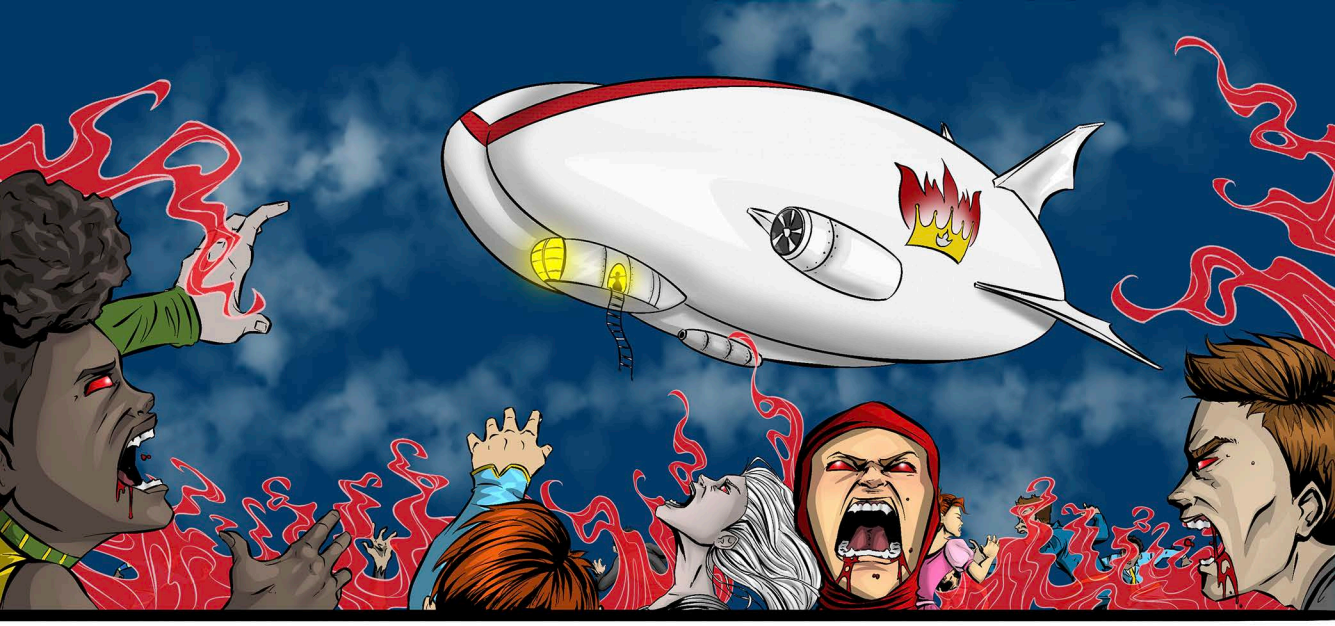
YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE.
OR WE NORTANS CAN TAKE THAT SHIP AND LEAVE YOU SAFE HERE.

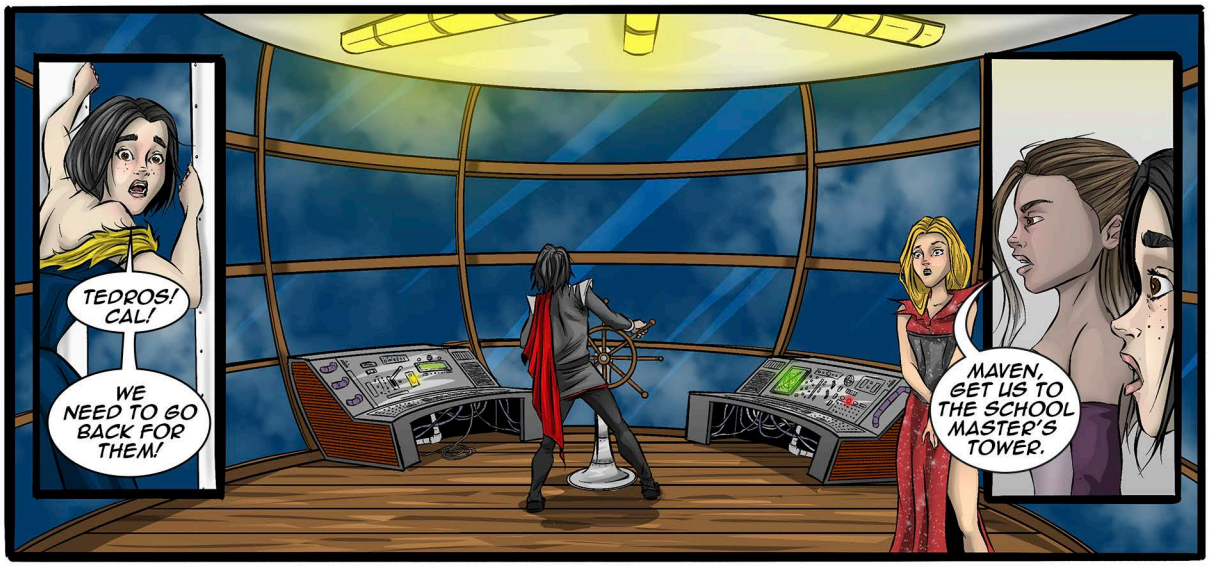
TOO FAR.
WE NEED TO ACT NOW.
WE ARE ACTING NOW.
CRRACK
WE KNOW THE SCHOOL BEST.
YOU'D ONLY PUT YOURSELF IN HARM'S WAY–
CRRAAAAACK
WE'RE NOT JUST GOING TO SIT HERE LIKE USELESS--

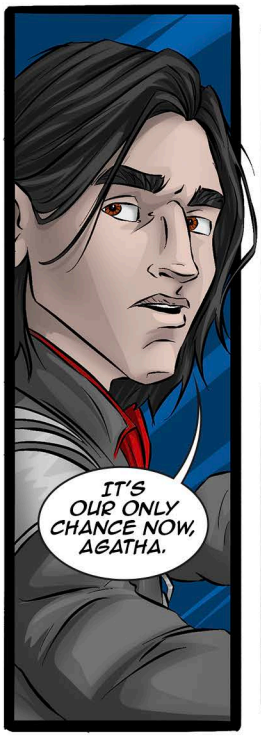
KEEP GOING! WE CAN MAKE IT!
SLASH!
AAAARRRGG!

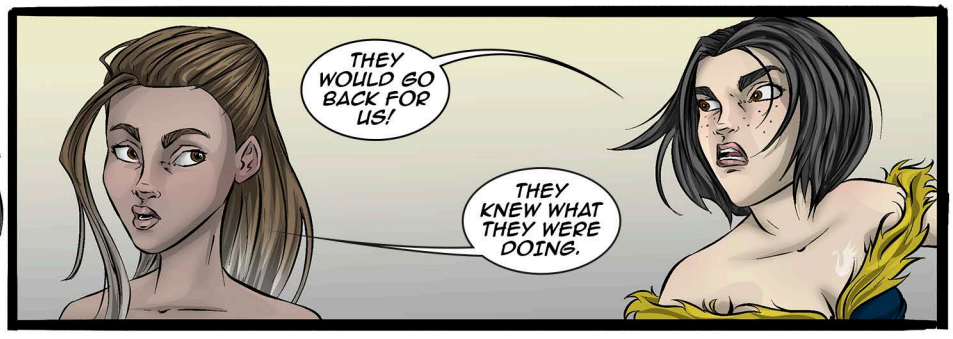
TEDROS, GO! I'LL HOLD THEM OFF!
UUUNNGGH!

CAL!
SLICE!
NO!!!

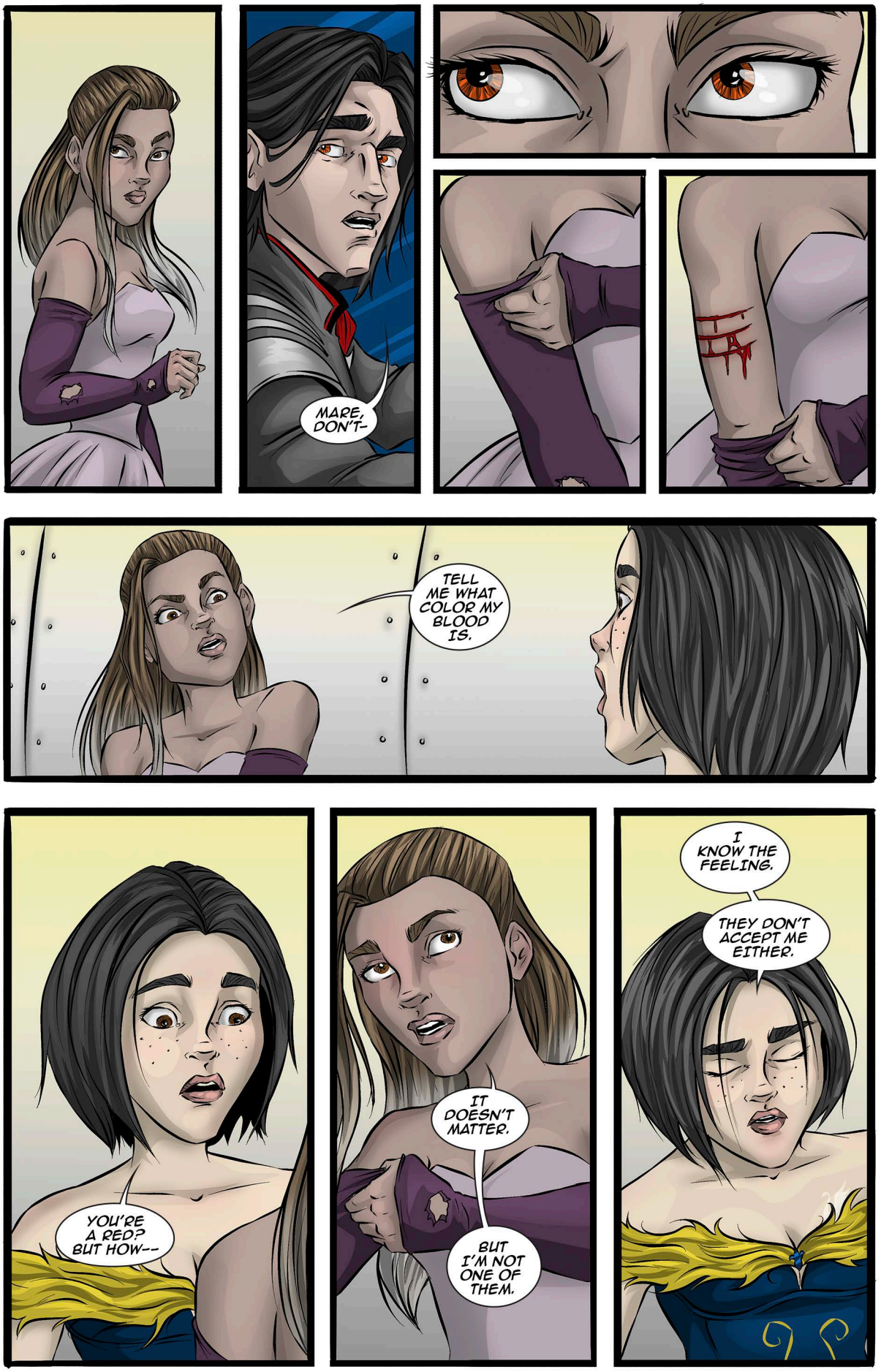


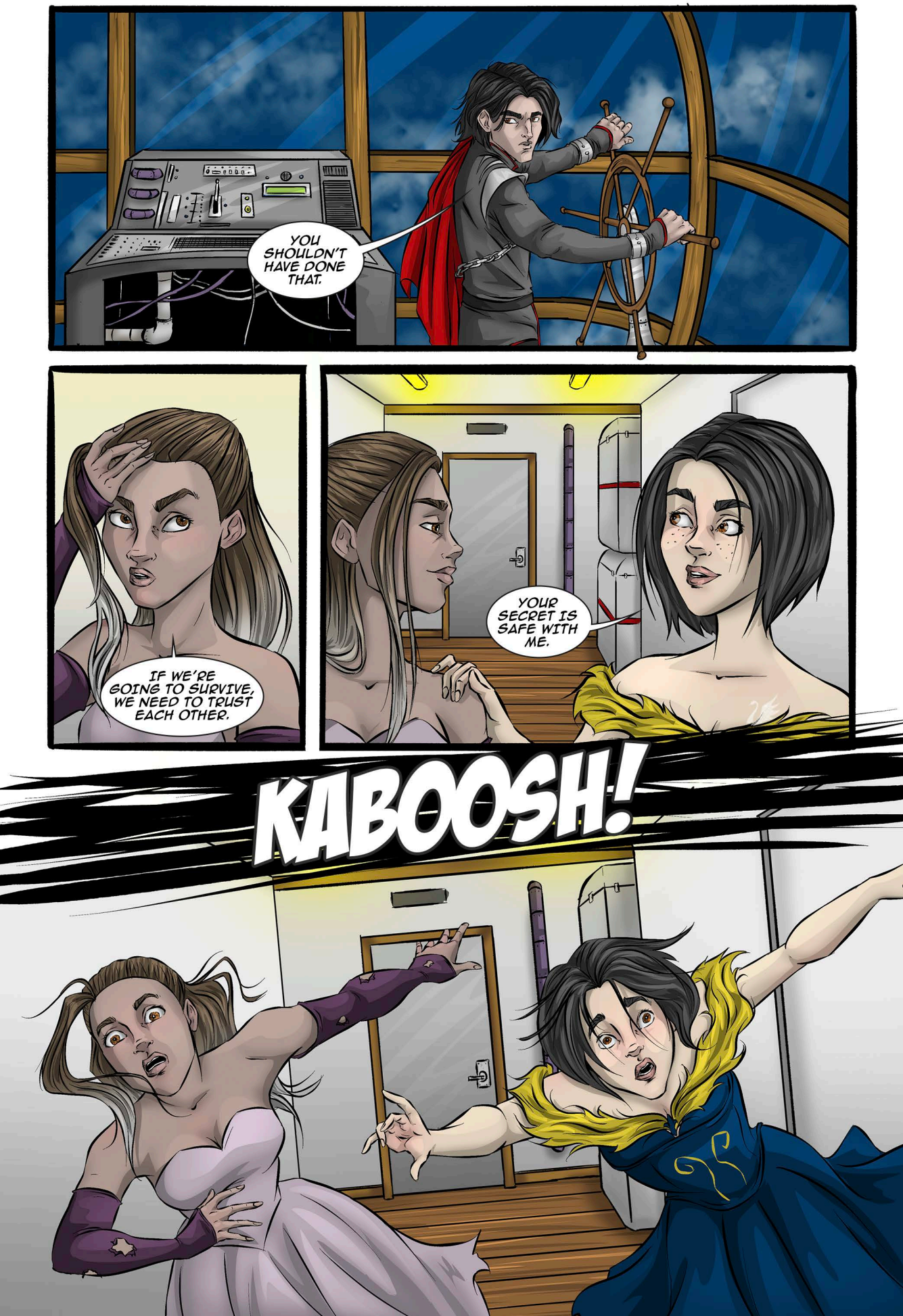

TEDROS! CAL!
WE NEED TO GO BACK FOR THEM!
MAVEN, GET US TO THE SCHOOL MASTER'S TOWER.

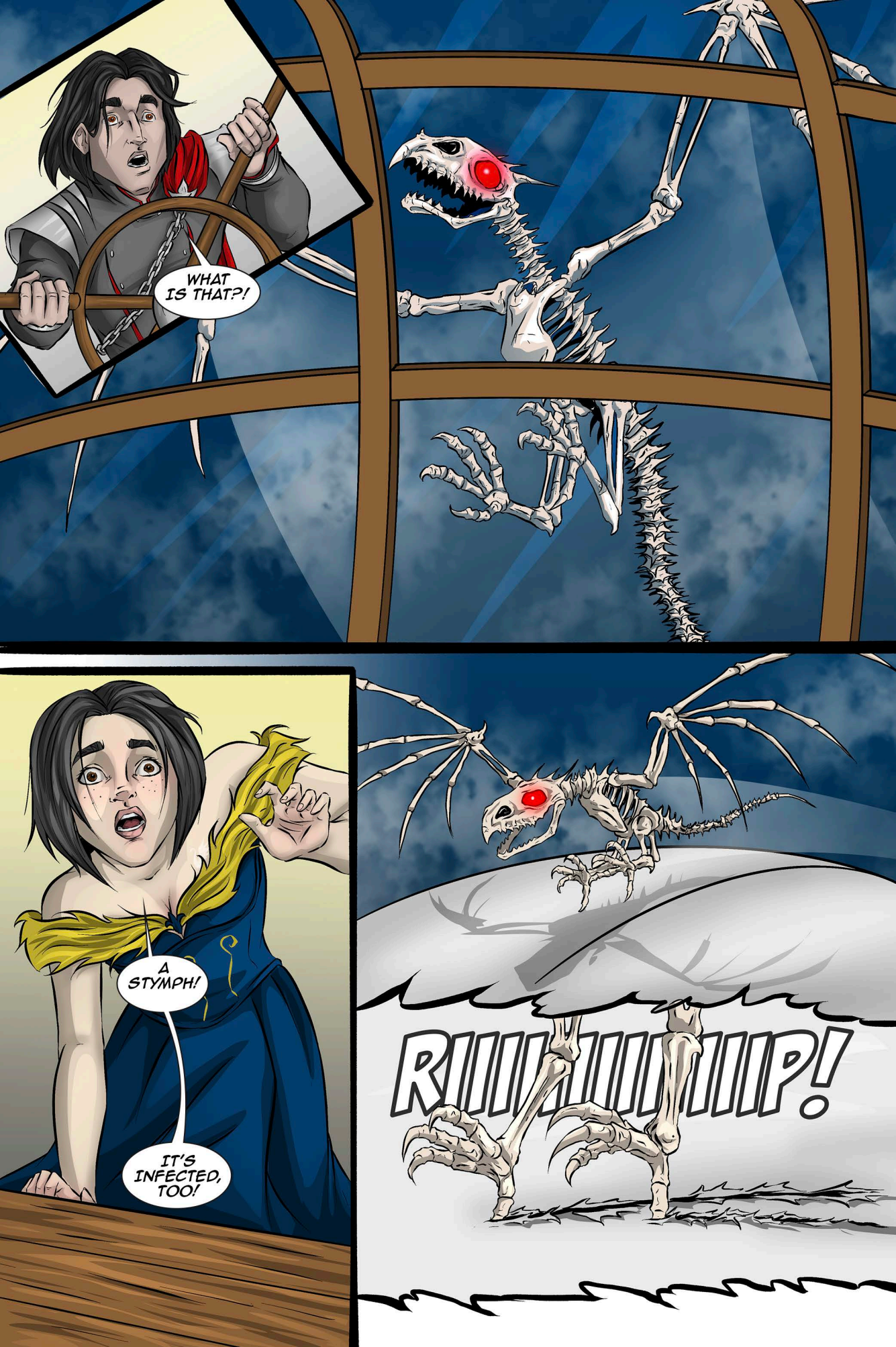

IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE NOW, AGATHA.

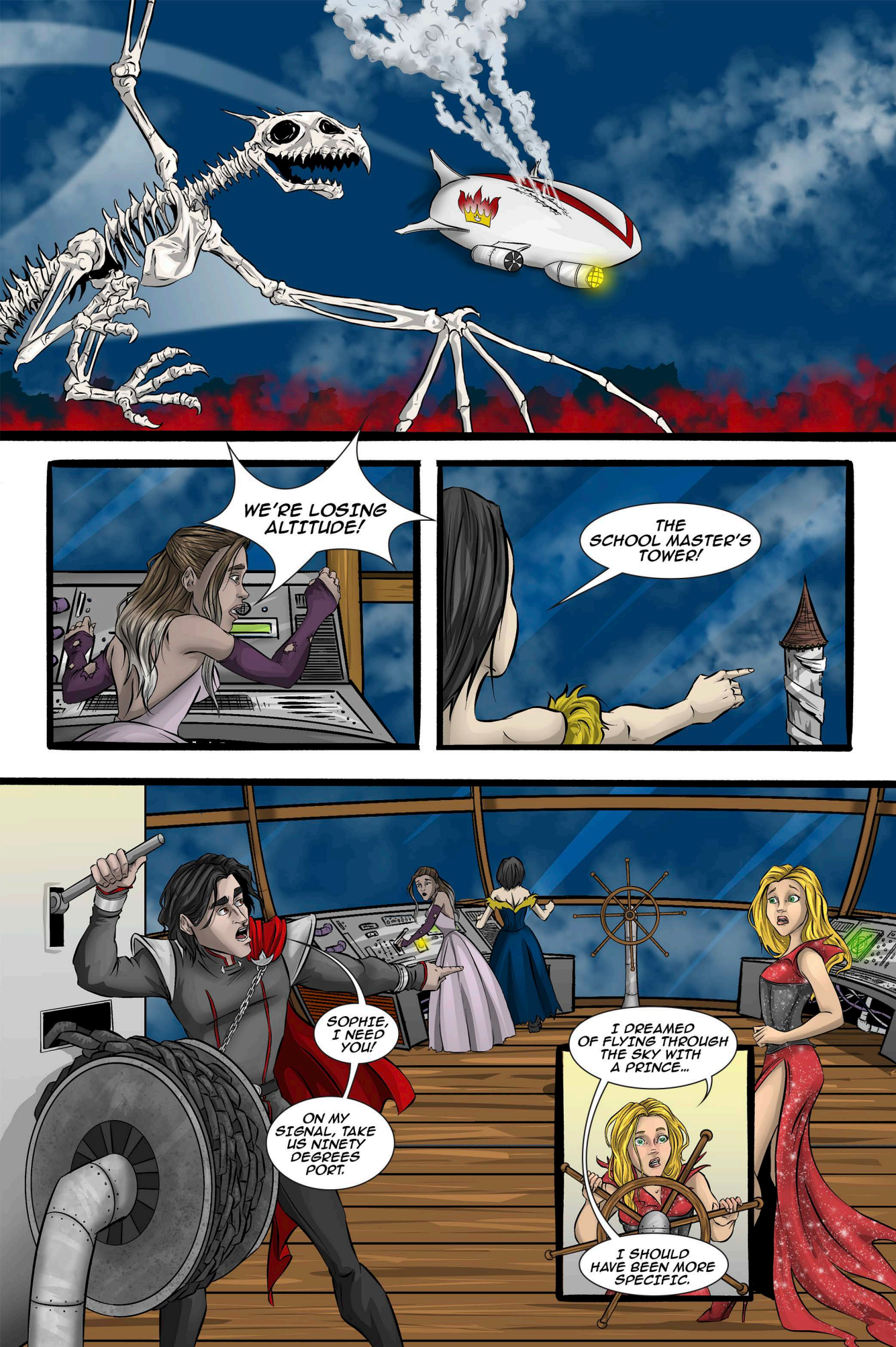

THEY WOULD GO BACK FOR US!
THEY KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DOING.

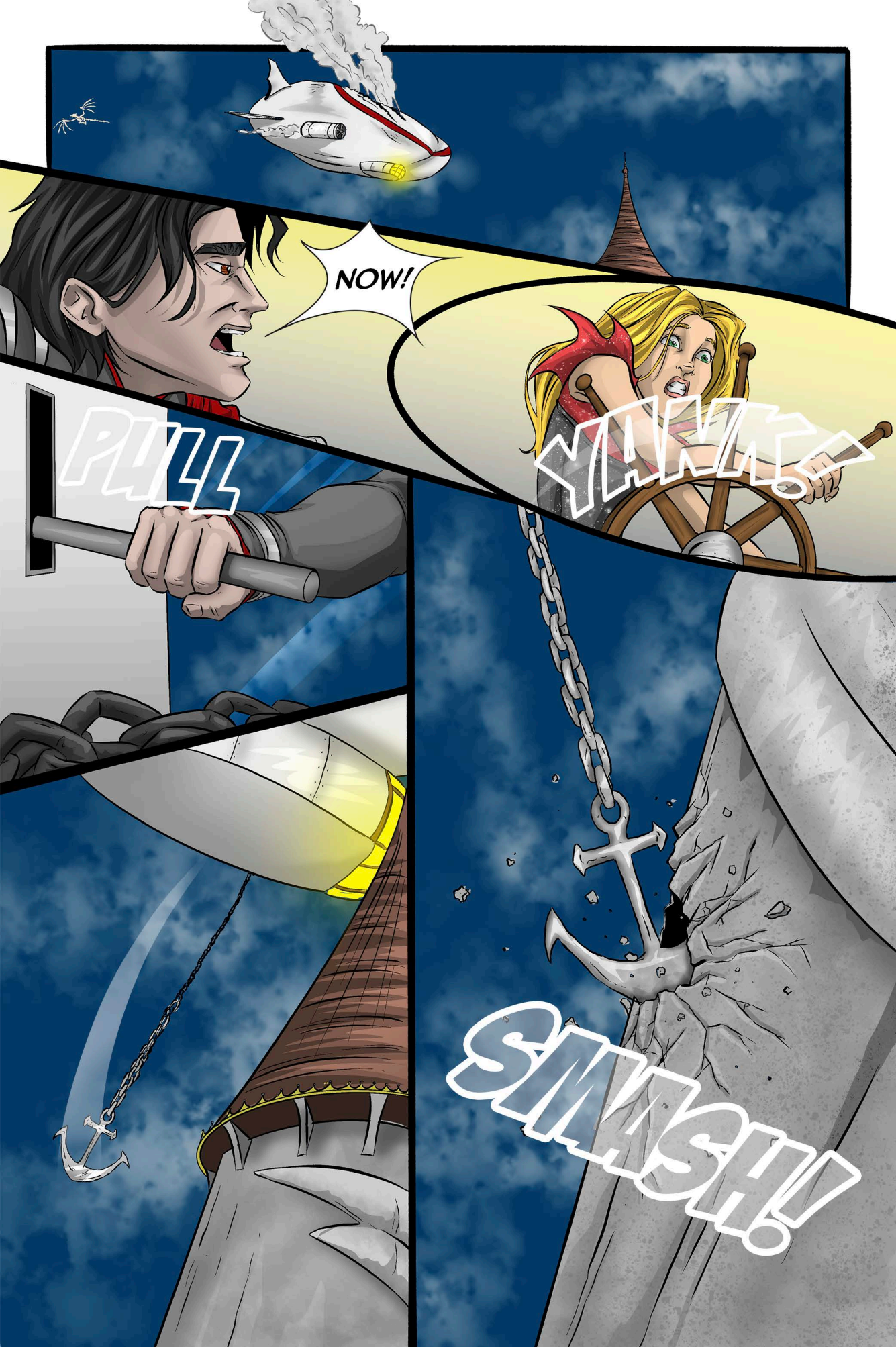
ARE ALL SILVERS AS COLD-BLOODED AS YOU?


MARE, DON'T–
TELL ME WHAT COLOR MY BLOOD IS.
YOU'RE A RED? BUT HOW--
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
BUT I'M NOT ONE OF THEM.
I KNOW THE FEELING.
THEY DON'T ACCEPT ME EITHER.


YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT.
IF WE'RE GOING TO SURVIVE, WE NEED TO TRUST EACH OTHER.
YOUR SECRET IS SAFE WITH ME.
KABOOSH!


WHAT IS THAT?!
A STYMPH!
IT'S INFECTED, TOO!
RIIIIIIIIIIP!

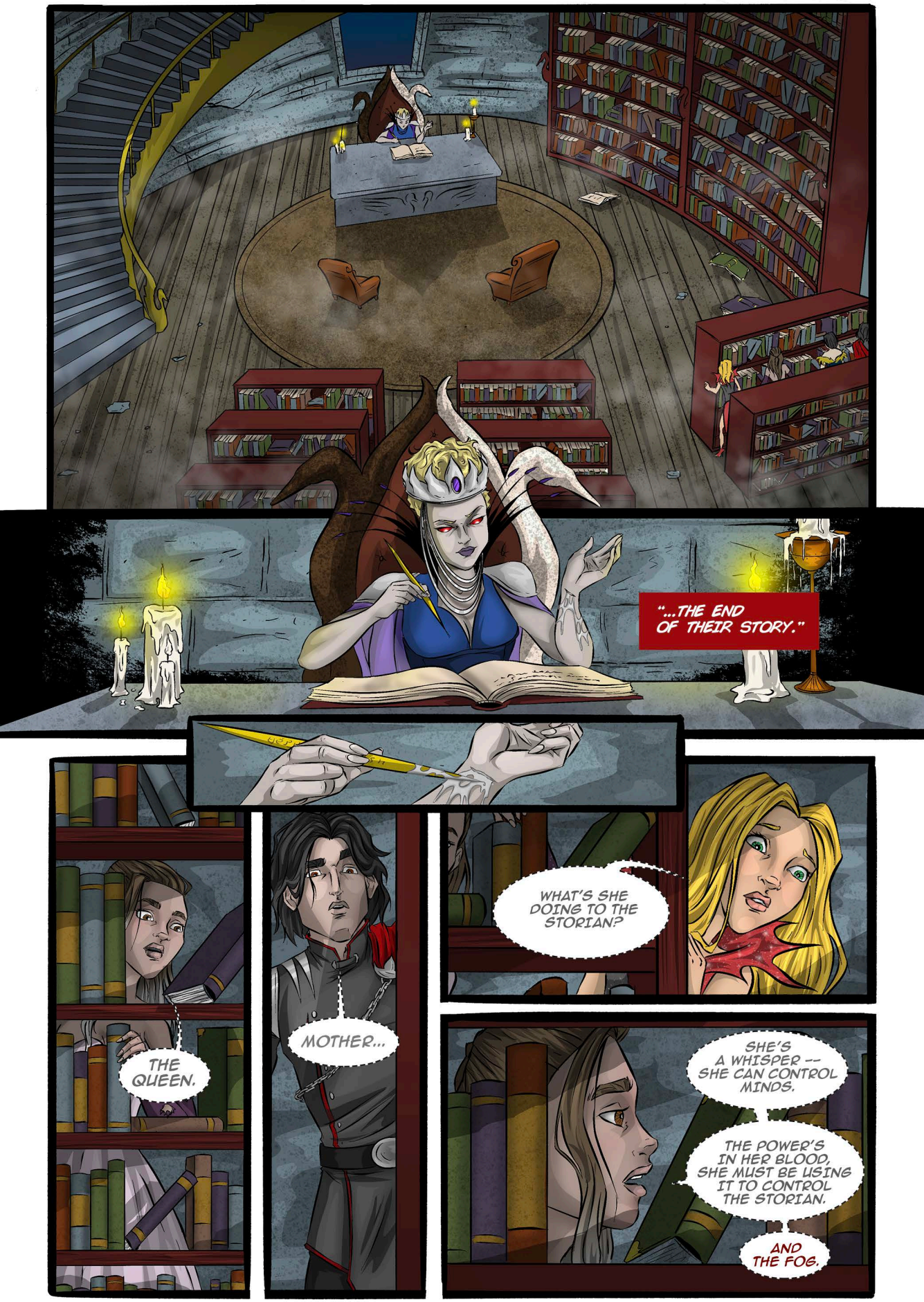

WE'RE LOSING ALTITUDE!
THE SCHOOL MASTER'S TOWER!
SOPHIE, I NEED YOU!
ON MY SIGNAL, TAKE US NINETY DEGREES PORT.
I DREAMED OF FLYING THROUGH THE SKY WITH A PRINCE...
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SPECIFIC.


NOW!
YANK!
PULL
SMASH!

CRASH
THE SCHOOL MASTERS TOWER

NOT BAD.
THE SCHOOL MASTER'S STUDY.
STAY ON YOUR TOES.

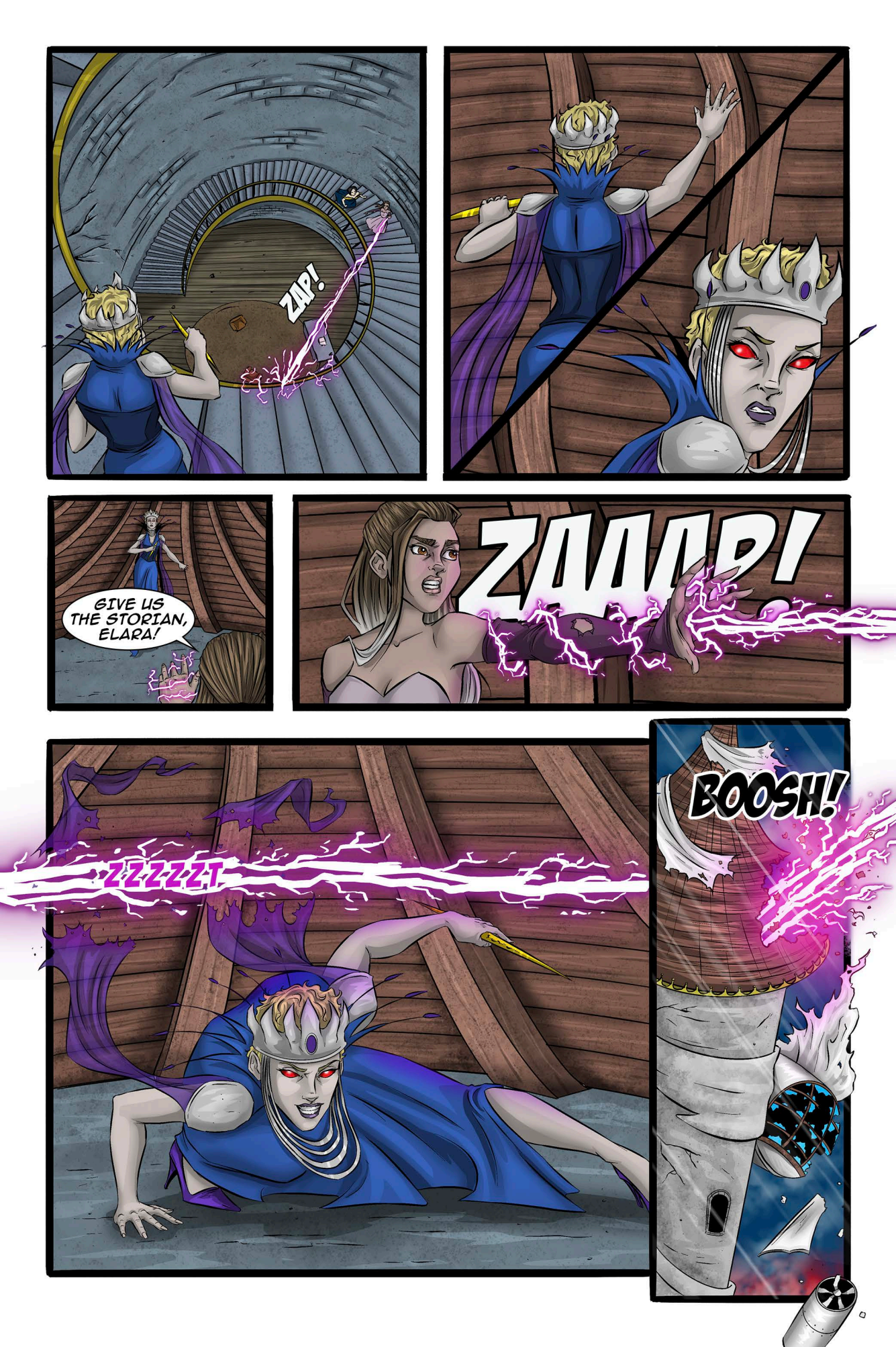
CLEVER CHILDREN, TO HAVE MADE IT SO FAR...
BUT TALES THAT CROSS MUST EVENTUALLY UNRAVEL...
AND THEIR UNDOING WAS NOW AT HAND...
CLOSER... EVER CLOSER...


"...THE END OF THEIR STORY."
THE QUEEN.
MOTHER...
WHAT'S SHE DOING TO THE STORIAN?
SHE'S A WHISPER -- SHE CAN CONTROL MINDS.
THE POWER'S IN HER BLOOD, SHE MUST BE USING IT TO CONTROL THE STORIAN.
AND THE FOG.

THEN WE HAVE TO GET THE STORIAN OUT OF HER HANDS.
MAVEN. I KNOW SHE'S YOUR MOTHER–
BUT WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING.
ON THE COUNT OF 3.
ONE...
TWO...
PROFESSOR DOVEY...

SOPHIE, LOOK OUT!
ZAP!
SHING!
SHOOP!
KABOOSH

ELARA IS GETTING AWAY!
GO!
SOPHIE AND I WILL HOLD DOVEY OFF!


ZAP!
GIVE US THE STORIAN, ELARA!
ZAAAP!
ZZZZZZT
BOOSH!

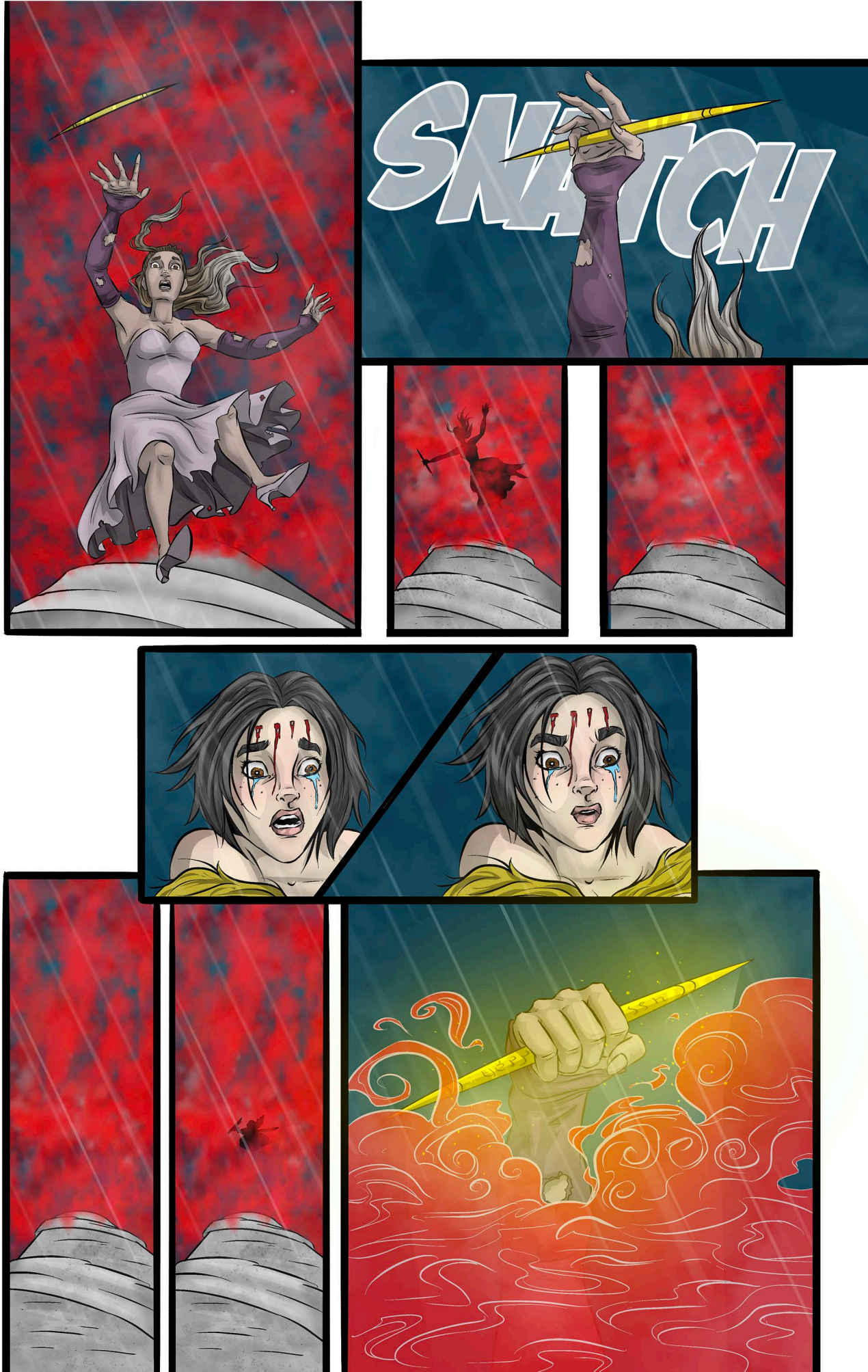
GIVE IT UP, ELARA, YOU'VE NOWHERE TO RUN!

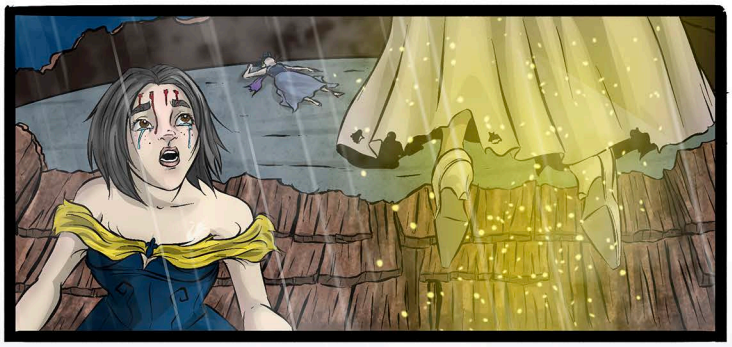
AAAAHH
YOUR SCHOOL AND ITS POWER WILL BE OURS.
AGATHA?
BAM!

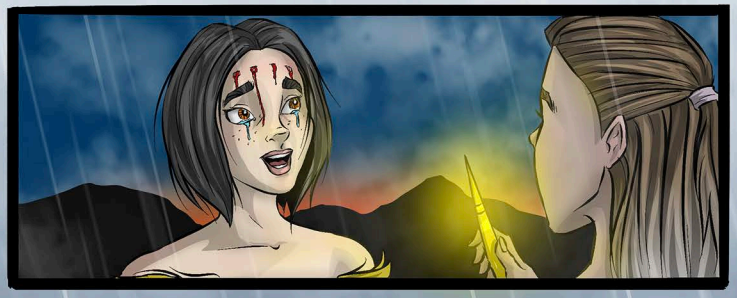
AGATHA, YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THEM.
YOU'RE STRONGER.

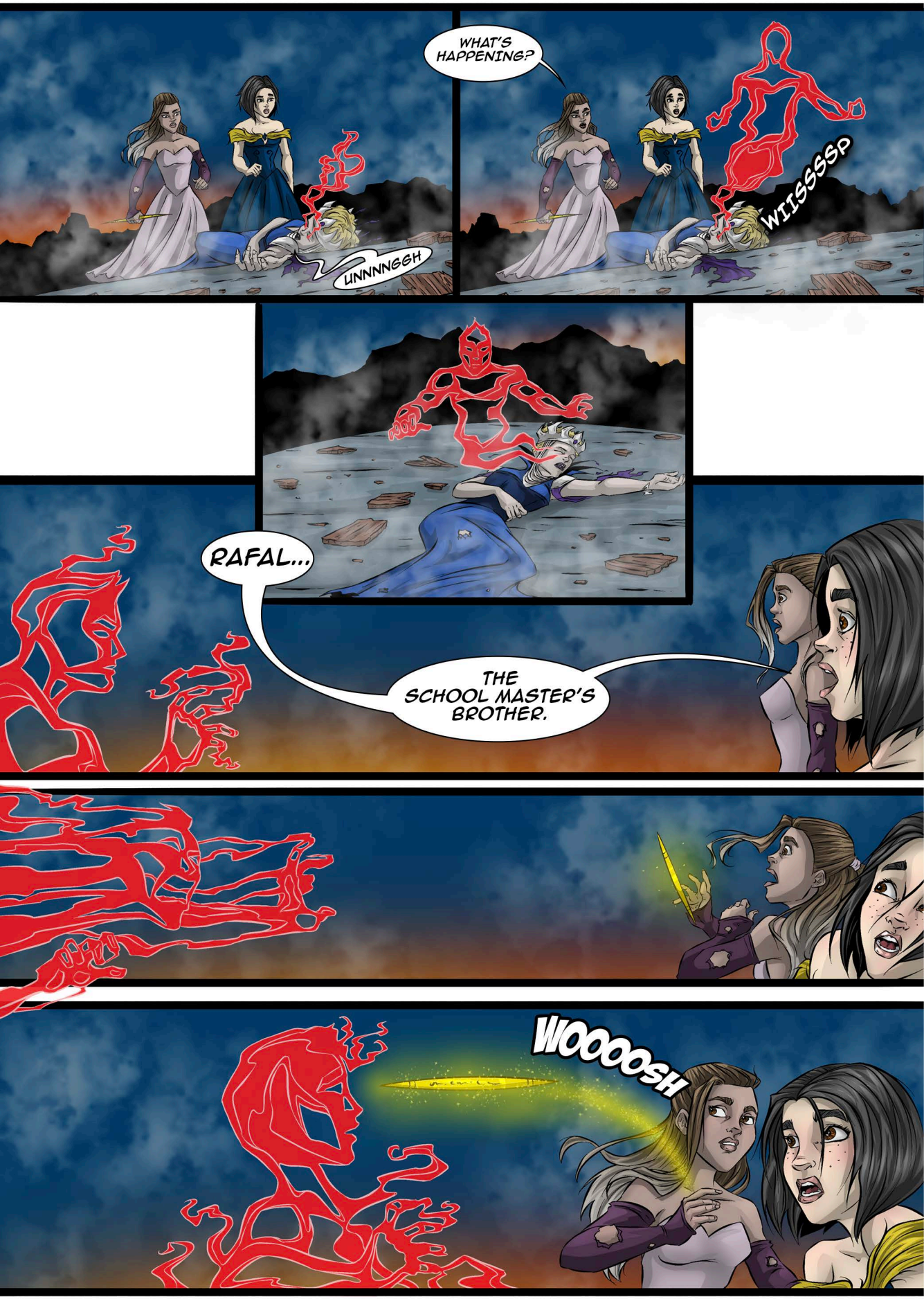
TAKE MY HAND!
DO IT. DROP HER.
I'M SORRY...
DON'T BE.
GOODBYE, AGATHA.

ZAAAAP!
BOOM!
NOOOO!


SNATCH



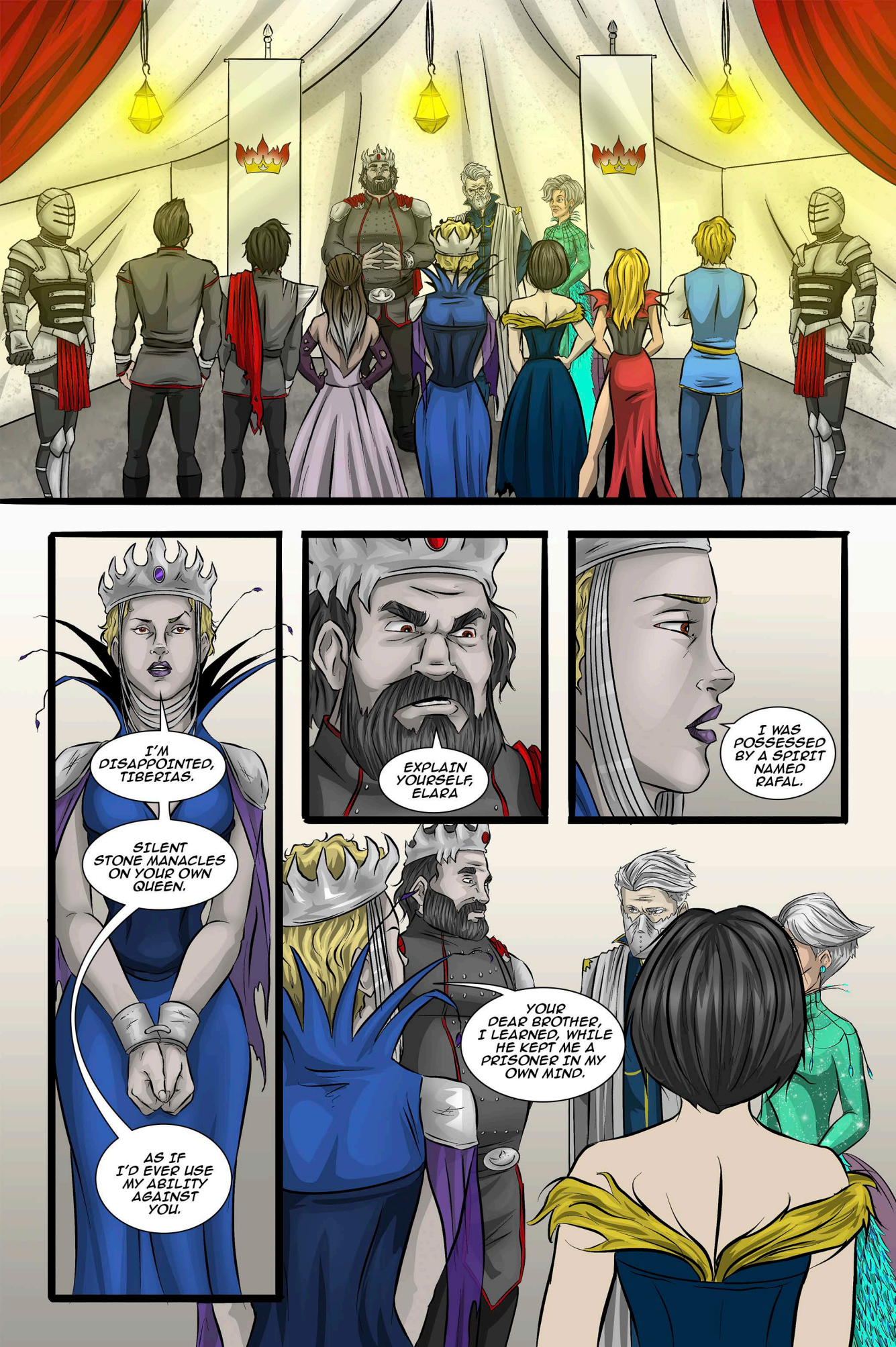


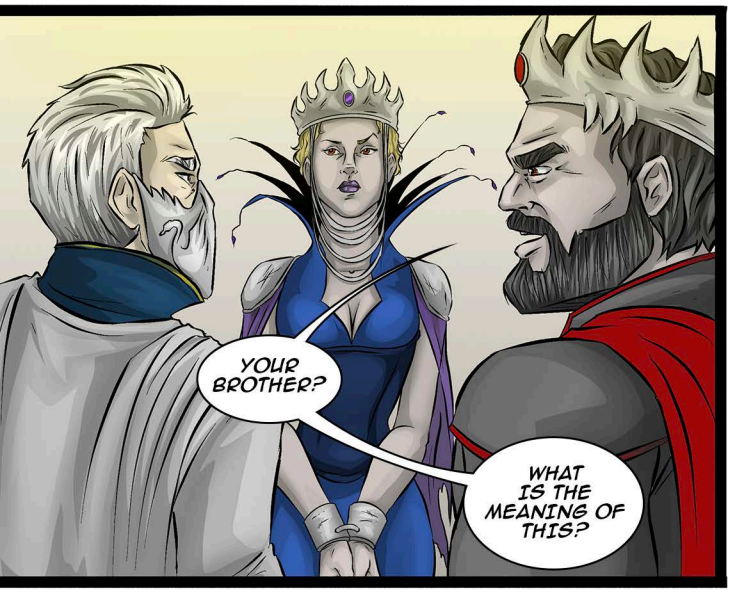

UNNNNGGH
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WIISSSSP
RAFAL...
THE SCHOOL MASTER'S BROTHER.
WOOOOSH

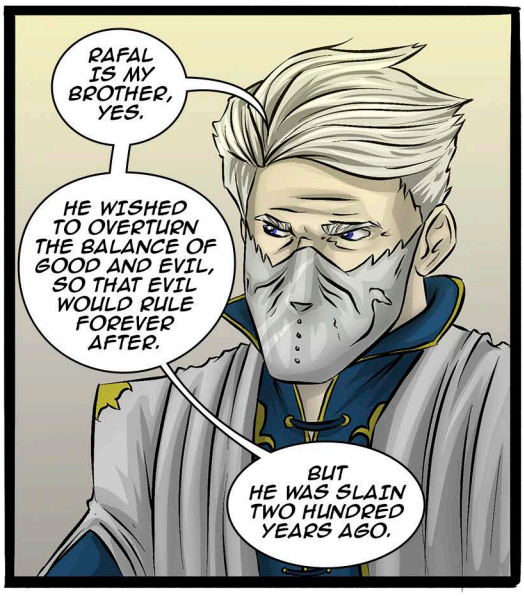
SHHHHHHHHHHIIIIIIING
ONE MORE MOVE AND YOU DIE.
UUNNNNGG...

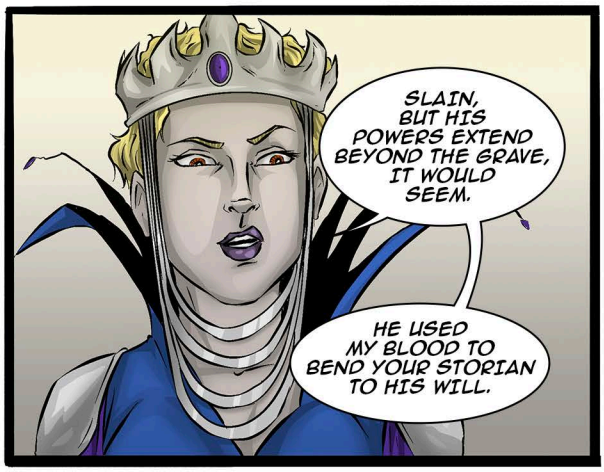
FWOOOOSH
FWOOOOSH
FWOOOOSH
FWOOOOSH
FWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOSH

LATER...


I'M DISAPPOINTED, TIBERIAS.
SILENT STONE MANACLES ON YOUR OWN QUEEN.
AS IF I'D EVER USE MY ABILITY AGAINST YOU.
EXPLAIN YOURSELF, ELARA
I WAS POSSESSED BY A SPIRIT NAMED RAFAL.
YOUR DEAR BROTHER, I LEARNED, WHILE HE KEPT ME A PRISONER IN MY OWN MIND.


YOUR BROTHER?
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?


RAFAL IS MY BROTHER, YES.
HE WISHED TO OVERTURN THE BALANCE OF GOOD AND EVIL, SO THAT EVIL WOULD RULE FOREVER AFTER.
BUT HE WAS SLAIN TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO.


SLAIN, BUT HIS POWERS EXTEND BEYOND THE GRAVE, IT WOULD SEEM.
HE USED MY BLOOD TO BEND YOUR STORIAN TO HIS WILL.

IS THIS POSSIBLE?

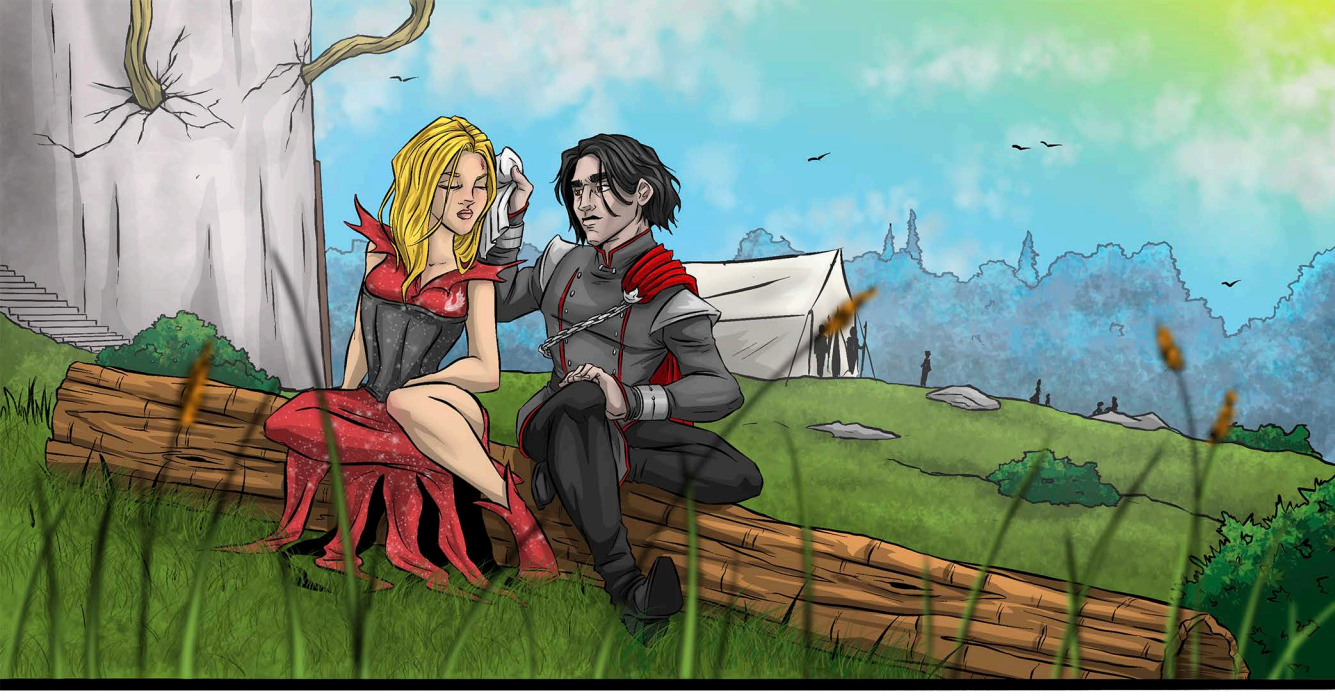
I'M NOT SURE.
MY BROTHER WAS THE MOST POWERFUL SORCERER OF HIS TIME.
BUT THE STORIAN IS A FORCE WITHOUT PARALLEL IN THE WOODS.

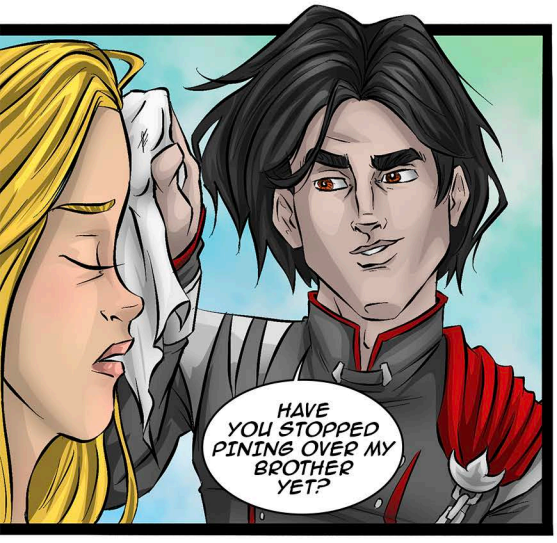
WELL, I'M NOT FROM THE WOODS, AM I?
RAFAL HAD TO HAVE SEEN THIS.
THIS OPPORTUNITY.
OR RATHER HE GUIDED OUR WORLDS TOGETHER PRECISELY TO THIS END.

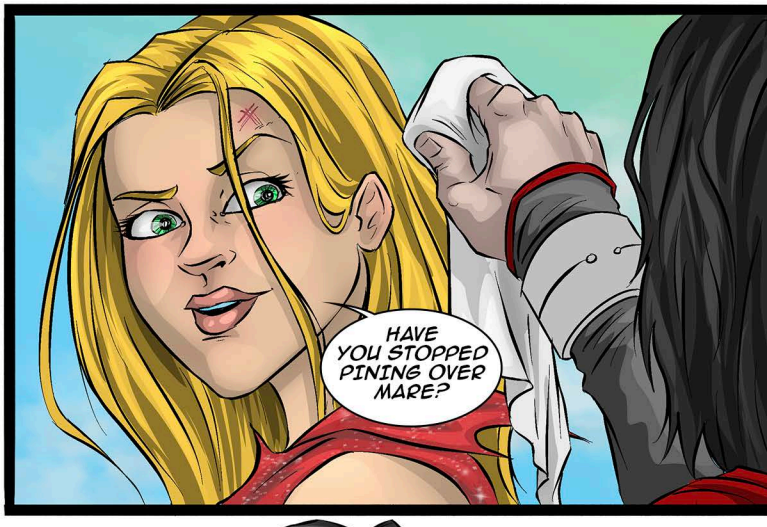
VERY WELL...
PERHAPS THERE ARE UNFORESEEN DANGERS WITH OUR WORLDS MEETING.

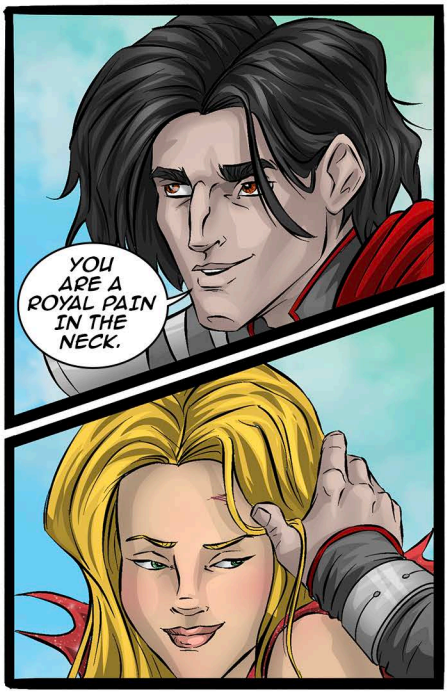
RELEASE THE QUEEN.

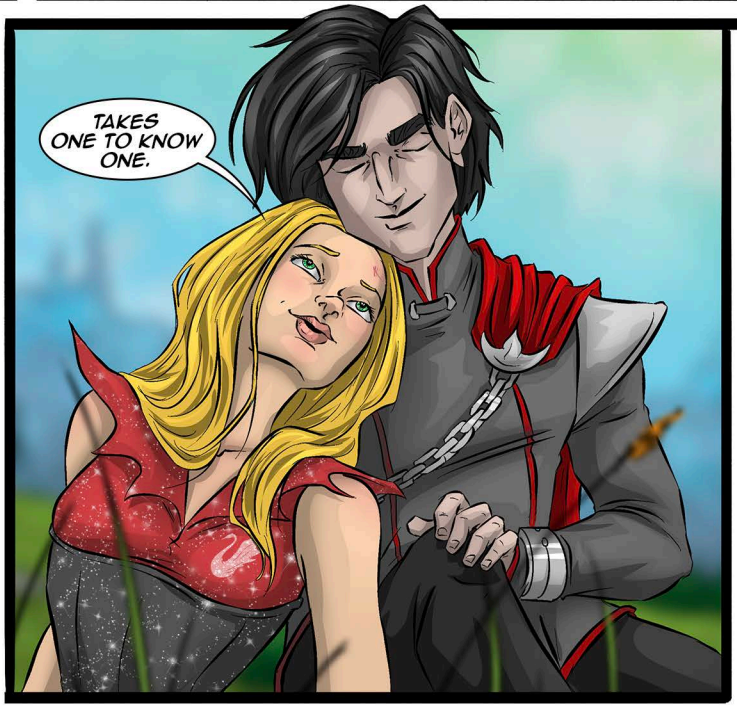
CLICK
THAT'S IT?
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO LET HER GO?
SHE TRIED TO KILL US!
DID YOU OR DID YOU NOT WITNESS THE SPIRIT THE QUEEN TALKS OF?
I DID SEE IT. BUT...
I'M SORRY, AGATHA, BUT WE MUST CONFRONT OUR FEARS.
RAFAL, MY BROTHER, HAS RETURNED.
THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD & EVIL IS IN DANGER.
CLARISSA, DOUBLE THE GUARD.
NO STUDENT IS TO LEAVE THE CLEARING.
AND SEND WORD TO THE KINGDOM COUNCIL AT ONCE. WE MUST PREPARE.
AT ONCE.
YOU PERFORMED ADMIRABLY.
THE WOODS ARE IN YOUR DEBT.
AS IS NORTA.
I EXPECTED NOTHING LESS FROM YOU, SON.
FATHER, IT WASN'T ME.
IT WAS THEM, MARE AND AGATHA, MAVEN...
AND AREN'T WE THANKFUL FOR THEM.
LITTLE LIGHTNING GIRL.

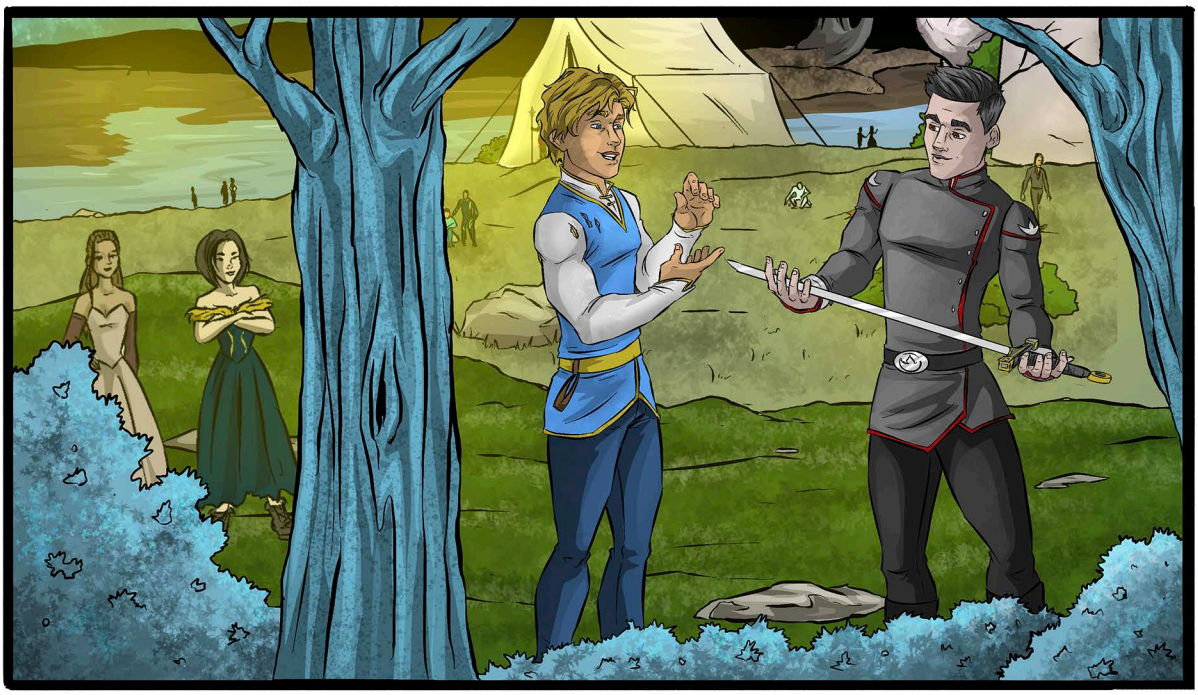



HAVE YOU STOPPED PINING OVER MY BROTHER YET?

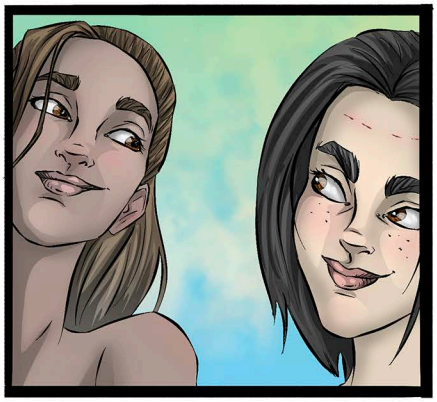

HAVE YOU STOPPED PINING OVER MARE?

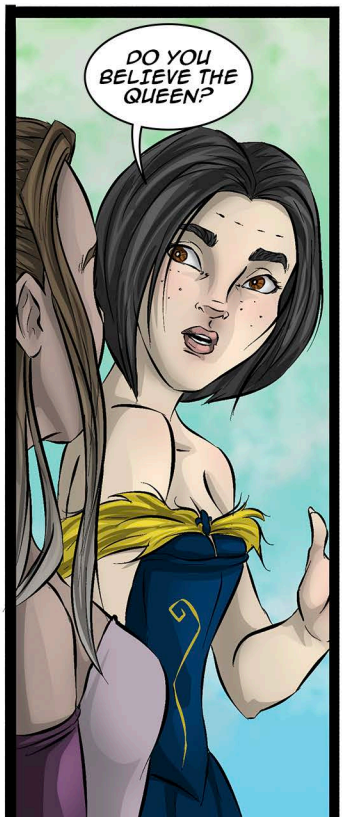

YOU ARE A ROYAL PAIN IN THE NECK.


TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE.

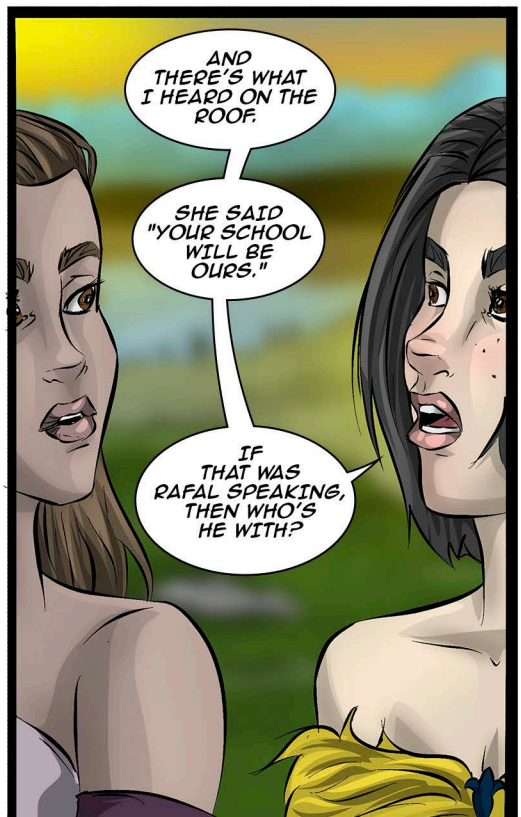


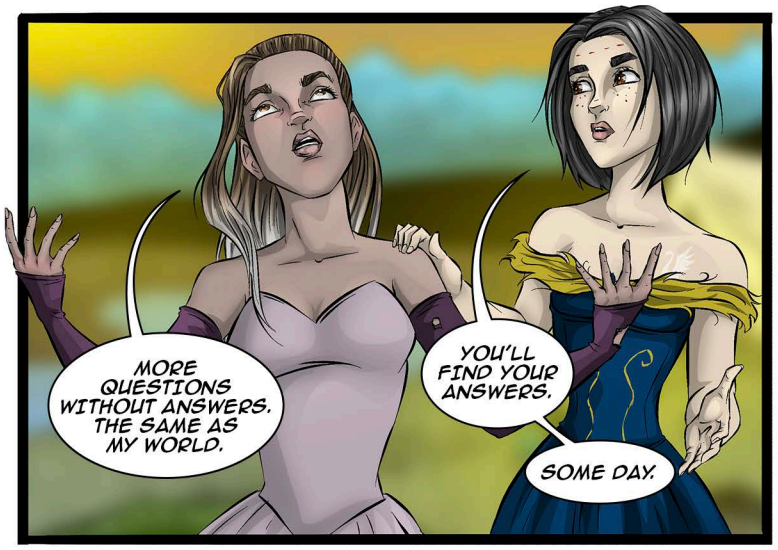
CUTE COUPLE, AREN'T THEY?

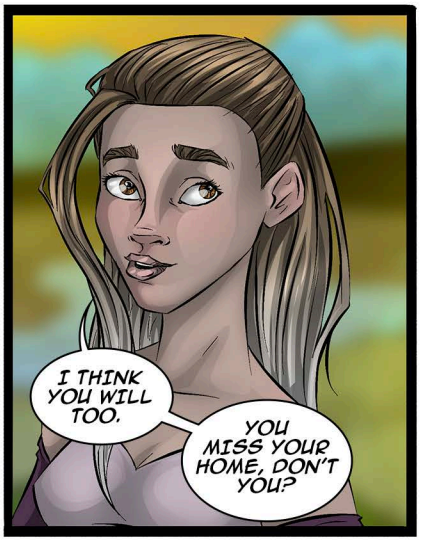


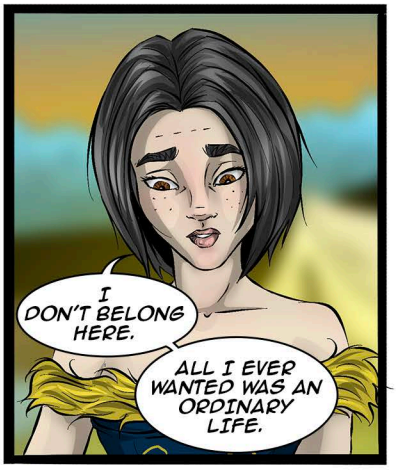

DO YOU BELIEVE THE QUEEN?

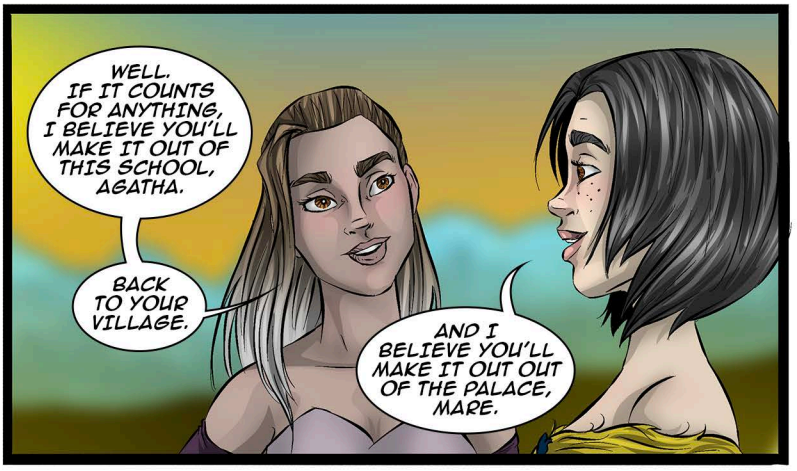
QUEEN ELARA IS A POWERFUL WHISPER.
RAFAL SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO POSSESS HER SO EASILY.

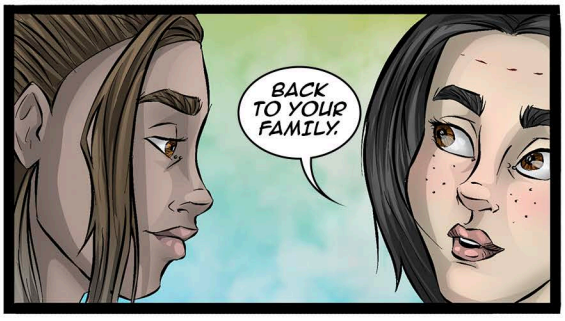

AND THERE'S WHAT I HEARD ON THE ROOF.
SHE SAID "YOUR SCHOOL WILL BE OURS."
IF THAT WAS RAFAL SPEAKING, THEN WHO'S HE WITH?

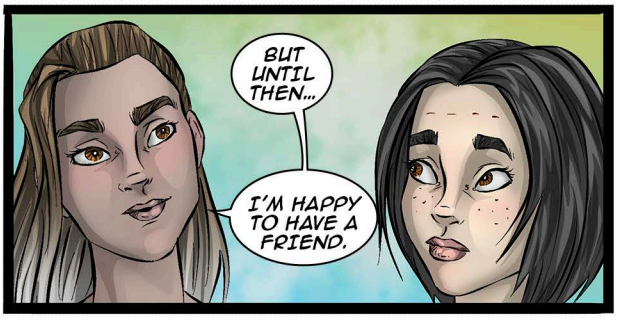

MORE QUESTIONS WITHOUT ANSWERS. THE SAME AS MY WORLD.
YOU'LL FIND YOUR ANSWERS.
SOME DAY.


I THINK YOU WILL TOO.
YOU MISS YOUR HOME, DON'T YOU?

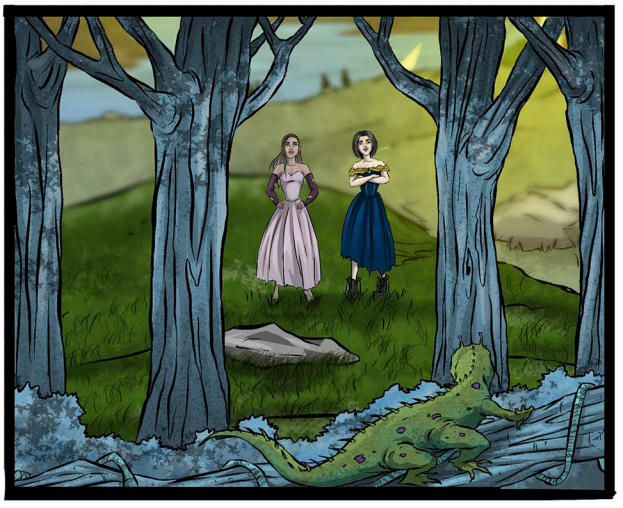

I DON'T BELONG HERE.
ALL I EVER WANTED WAS AN ORDINARY LIFE.


WELL. IF IT COUNTS FOR ANYTHING, I BELIEVE YOU'LL MAKE IT OUT OF THIS SCHOOL, AGATHA.
BACK TO YOUR VILLAGE.
AND I BELIEVE YOU'LL MAKE IT OUT OUT OF THE PALACE, MARE.


BACK TO YOUR FAMILY.


BUT UNTIL THEN...
I'M HAPPY TO HAVE A FRIEND.

ME TOO.



The En

Soman Chainani

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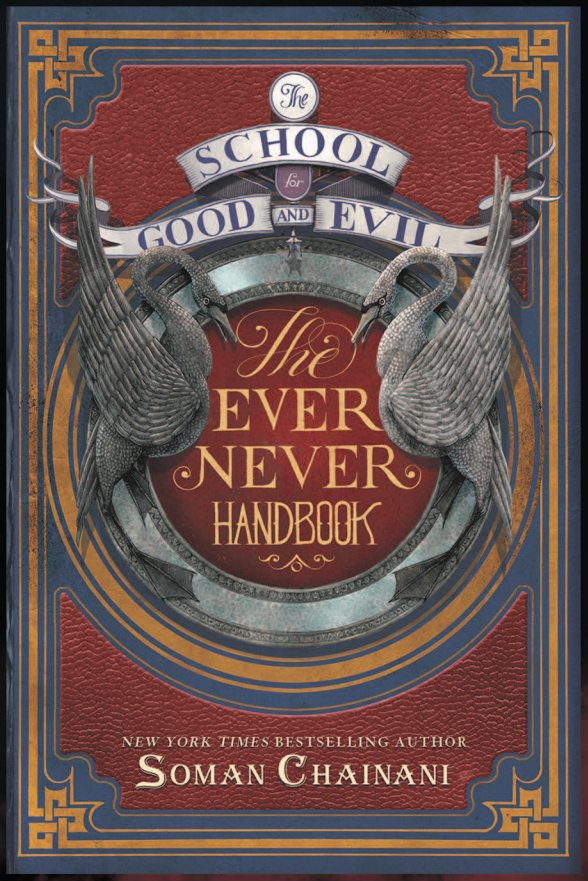
SOMAN CHAINANI

RULE THE SCHOOL



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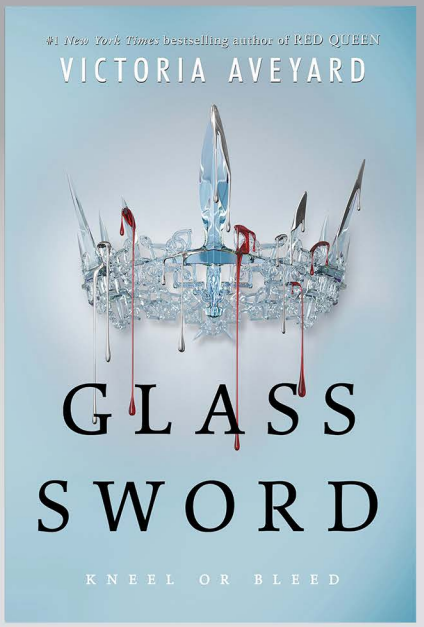
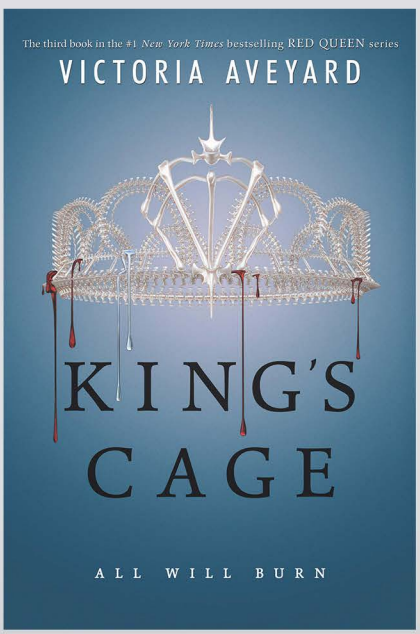
ALL HAIL THE RED QUEEN





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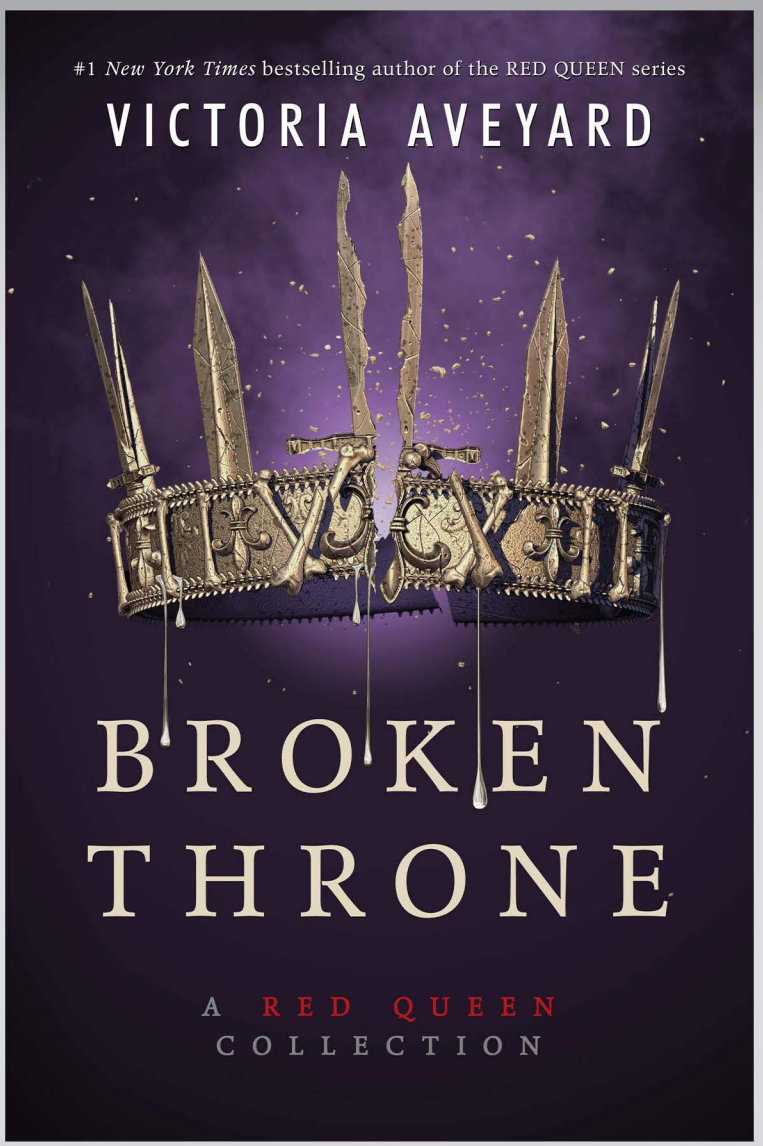

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